

Appl. No. 10/034,898
Amdt. dated December 27, 2004
Reply to Office action of September 27, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A public switched telephone network ~~device~~ service control point comprising:
 - a first subsystem;
 - a second subsystem;
 - a signaling system seven control module coupled to the first subsystem and the second subsystem, ~~whereby the module receives~~ receiving an outbound signaling system seven message from the first subsystem and, if the destination for the message, is the second subsystem, ~~converts~~ converting the outbound message to an inbound signaling system seven message.
2. (Currently amended) The public switched telephone network device of Claim 1 wherein:
 - said signaling system seven control module routes an inbound signaling system seven message to a subsystem designated as the destination subsystem in the message.
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Currently amended) The public switched telephone network service control point ~~device~~ of Claim 1 wherein:
 - the module reroutes the outbound message directly to the second subsystem.

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6. (Currently amended) The public switched telephone network service control point device of Claim 1 wherein:

the module checks the destination of the outbound message and then converts the message into an inbound message.

7. (Currently amended) The public switched telephone network service control point device of Claim 6 wherein:

the module checks the destination of the outbound message by checking the destination signaling point code contained in the message.

8. (Currently amended) The public switched telephone network service control point device of Claim 1 further comprising:

a memory storing an inbound signaling system seven message.

9. (Currently amended) The public switched telephone network service control point device of Claim 1 further comprising:

a computer processor in which said first and second subsystems and said signaling system seven control module operate.

10. (Currently amended) The public switched telephone network service control point device of Claim 1 further comprising:

a first computer processor in which said first subsystem and said signaling system seven control module operate, and

a second computer processor in which said second subsystem and said signaling system seven control module operate.

11. (Original) A public switched telephone network comprising:

a plurality of service control points,

a plurality of subsystems operating in each service control point, and

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means for internally routing signaling system seven messages from subsystems in a service control point to other subsystems in the same service control point.

12. (Original) The public switched telephone network according to Claim 11 wherein:

said subsystems residing in each service control point are selected to maximize the likelihood that outbound messages from a subsystem will have another subsystem in the same service control point as the destination subsystem.

13. (Original) The public switched telephone network according to Claim 12 further comprising:

a 911 service subsystem and a position determining entity subsystem residing at the same service control point.

14. (Currently amended) A method for managing signaling system seven messages in a public switched telephone network device-service control point having a plurality of subsystems comprising:

checking the destination subsystem identified in an outbound signaling system seven message and, if the destination subsystem resides in the service control point-network device, internally rerouting the message to the destination subsystem.

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently amended) The method of Claim ~~16~~ 14 further comprising:
comparing the signaling point code of the destination subsystem to the signaling point code of the subsystem sending the outbound message.

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17. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 16 further comprising:
using a routing table to determine the signaling point code of the outbound message based on the subsystem number of the destination subsystem.
18. (Original) The method of Claim 14 further comprising:
converting the outbound message to an inbound message.
19. (Currently amended) A method for managing signaling system seven messages in a public switched telephone network service control point device having at least two subsystems comprising:
coupling an inbound signaling system seven message to a memory and to a first subsystem designated as the destination subsystem in the inbound message,
processing said inbound signaling system seven message with said first subsystem and updating the message stored in said memory to include the results of said processing, and
using the stored and updated message to send an outbound signaling system seven message from said first subsystem to a second subsystem.
20. (Original) The method of Claim 19 further comprising:
comparing the network location of said first subsystem to the network location of said second subsystem, and if said locations are the same, internally routing said message to said second subsystem.
21. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 20 further comprising:
using a routing table to identify the signaling point code of said second subsystem.
22. (Original) The method of Claim 20 further comprising:
converting said outbound message to an inbound message.